Remarks

Reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-45 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application 2003/0001890 of *Brin* ("*Brin*").

Applicant has amended claim 24 to provide the correct dependency to claim 22.

Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 is not anticipated by *Brin* because *Brin* does not disclose communication among a set of rich media environments as claimed in claim 1. Instead, *Brin* discloses communication among a set of user terminals 100. (*Brin*, Fig. 1 and paragraphs 0005 and 0082). It is submitted that the user terminals 100 of *Brin* do not anticipate a set of rich media environment as claimed in claim 1 because a rich media environment as claimed in claim 1 includes an arrangement of sensing and rendering components for covering a set of individuals present in the rich media environment whereas a user terminal as taught by *Brin* includes a keyboard and display and mouse for interaction with a single user. (*Brin*, Fig. 1 and paragraph 0005). A user terminal 100 as taught by *Brin* does not include, among other things, sensing components as claimed in claim 1.

Applicant submits that the examiner has mistaken the world view 700 shown Figure 7 of *Brin* as a physical environment. Applicant submits that the world view 700 of *Brin* is not a physical environment. Instead, the world view 700 of *Brin* is a window rendered on a display device. (*Brin*, paragraph 0082, lines 1-5, paragraph 120, lines 12-16). It is also submitted that the elements 320 in the world view 700 of *Brin* do not represent the physical locations of individuals. Instead, the elements 320 of *Brin* are a software emulation of conversation characteristics of individual users of the user terminals 100. (*Brin*, paragraph 0083, lines 1-2, and

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paragraphs 84 and 87).

It is also submitted that claim 1 is not anticipated by *Brin* because *Brin* does not disclose detecting multiple communication interactions among a set of individuals present in rich media environments as claimed in claim 1. This follows from the fact that *Brin* does not disclose rich media environments as claimed in claim 1.

It is further submitted that claim 1 is not anticipated by *Brin* because *Brin* does not disclose capturing a set of media data from the sensing components for each of a set of interest threads and combining the captured media data in response to the activities of individuals associated with the interest threads as claimed in claim 1. This follows from the fact that *Brin* does not disclose detecting multiple communication interactions as claimed in claim 1.
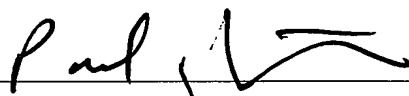
It is also submitted that claims 22 and 34 are not anticipated by *Brin*. Claims 22 and 34 include limitations similar to the limitations of claim 1. Therefore, the remarks stated above with respect to claim 1 also apply to claims 22 and 34.

Given that claims 2-21, 23-33, and 35-45 depend from claims 1, 22, and 34, respectively, it follows that claims 2-21, 23-33, and 35-45 are not anticipated by *Brin*.

It is respectfully submitted that in view of the amendments and arguments set forth above, the applicable objections and rejections have been overcome.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-2025 for any matter in connection with this response, including any fee for extension of time, which may be required.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: **2-21-06**   By: _____

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